

PRESIDENT WILSON CAN AVERT BIG RAILROAD STRIKE

Entente Allies Gaining In Three Regions VIRTUALLY ALL RAILROADS OF NATION MAY BE TIED UP IF WILSON'S EFFORTS FAIL

(Republican A. P. Leased Wire)

HARD FIGHTING IN THE SOMME REGION
Hard fighting in the Somme region of France, in Galicia, and in the Italian theater, with further gains for the entente allies in all three regions, marked the operations of Saturday night and Sunday.

Northwest of Pozieres north of the Somme, the British made an advance of from 300 to 400 yards over a front of nearly a mile against the Germans and also captured trenches on the plateau northwest of Bazentin-le-Petit, while the French south-east of Maurepas gained a further foothold on the slopes of Hill No. 109.

Between Thiepval and the Somme Saturday night, according to Berlin, assaults by the entente allies broke down with heavy casualties to the attackers. The fighting near Hem and Maurepas continued throughout the entire night and into Sunday, the men repeatedly coming to grips in the hand to hand encounters.

Marinopol, in Galicia, seven miles southeast of Halicz, the town of Podgaj and several villages along the upper Sereth river have fallen into the hands of the Russians.

On the Bystritsa sector and near Mnasstevytska, however, Berlin says the Russians have been thrown back at several places by the counter attacks of the Teutonic allies.

The Duke of Austria is keeping up his strong offensive against the Austrians in the front region, having driven them from several positions in the Montefalco and Gorizia sectors and taken prisoner more than 2,000 additional men.

Constantinople reports that the Turkish east of the Taurus canal have turned against the British and compelled them to retreat with heavy losses. The London war office, however, disputes this statement, asserting that the British cavalry is still in pursuit of the Turkish rear guard which Saturday evening had been driven to a position east of Birs-el-Manja.

After a long period of inactivity, the British along the Euphrates in Mesopotamia attempted an advance against the Turks but retreated after two hours' fighting. Further advances for the Turks against the Russians on the Persian front and in Turkish Armenia also are claimed by Constantinople.

Advancing on the Somme
LONDON, August 13.—An important advance on the Somme front north-west of Pozieres was announced today by the war office. The British pushed forward their lines 300 to 400 yards, over a front of nearly a mile.

Lloyd's reports the sinking of the Russian steamship Kovda, 1,225 tons gross, and of the Russian sailing vessel Lorenzo Donato and San Antonio.

The advance of a wide encircling movement by the British and Belgian forces in German East Africa is reported in the war office statement issued today. The statement reads:

"The forces under General Smuts began a simultaneous forward movement August 5. A strong mounted force under Brigadier-General Enliston undertook a wide encircling movement north and northwest of the Nguni mountains. After traversing the center mountains, General Enliston's troops emerged on August 8, at Mkhondla mission, where the mountains are the Kanga hills overlooking the Mjondze valley, completing an arduous march."

(Continued on Page Two)

BRITISH FORCES ARE DRIVING TURKS BACK

LONDON, Aug. 13.—British forces in Egypt are still driving back the Turks who were defeated in the recent battle east of the Suez canal. The following announcement was given out here today: "Our cavalry is still in pursuit of the Turkish rear guard and yesterday evening had driven back the Turks to a position east of Birs-el-Manja where there were large heaps of ashes in the vicinity of the abandoned Turkish positions."

OFFENSIVE OF BRITISH GOES ON UNCEASINGLY

(Republican A. P. Leased Wire)
WITH THE BRITISH ARMIES IN FRANCE, August 12 (via London, August 13).—Anyone who might think from reading the British official reports that the British offensive is over, would soon conclude from the unceasing gunfire, if he went out on the field, that a terrific battle was still in progress.

No one that the Associated Press correspondent meets at the front thinks that the offensive is over, or that anything but winter will stop it. Though no village or considerable stretch of trenches has been stormed in the last few days, every day has found some strong point taken and some new spur of trenches thrown out in the course of the same kind of operations which followed and preceded each big blow.

"The question this week," said a staff officer, "is whether our guns have killed more Germans than their guns have killed of us, and we know that the odds are in our favor, at least two, if not three, to one."

For six weeks the British have maintained a torrent of shell fire which German prisoners who have been at Verdun, say surpasses anything they encountered there; while at the front the amount of shell fire spent on the day before the grand offensive began. It has been a week, all to the taste of the gunners.

They have had such an advantage of position over the Germans as they never had before, thanks to the possession of the Pozieres ridge, which was crowned by a windmill the highest point, the wooden structure of which long since has been blown to splinters by shell fire and its stone base cracked into fragments.

Incalculable and inconceivable, the amount of shell fire spent on this ridge, whose irregular skyline is ever changing as a result of the pummeling, but the British keep their position, the wooden structure of which long since has been blown to splinters by shell fire and its stone base cracked into fragments.

The Australians described the latest German counter attack which was repulsed as a windmill the highest point, the wooden structure of which long since has been blown to splinters by shell fire and its stone base cracked into fragments.

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\$200,000,000 IS AMOUNT OF THE REVENUE BILL

(Republican A. P. Leased Wire)

WASHINGTON, August 13.—The importance of the \$200,000,000 revenue bill on which senate democrats today devoted many hours of deliberation in caucus, is being impressed upon leaders by the fact that appropriations of the session now nearing completion have broken all records.

With passage this week of the \$50,000,000 ship purchase bill and probable approval by the house of the senate's gigantic naval bill, the appropriations for the sixty-fourth congress have exceeded the previous high record by at least a half billion dollars.

Besides regular supply bills which total as yet \$1,685,000,000, the aggregate appropriation by congress for all purposes probably will approximate \$1,700,000,000, against \$1,114,000,000 for the sixty-third congress.

Special appropriations include \$20,000,000 for a government nitrate plant; \$6,000,000 for good roads; \$15,000,000 for rural credits and \$50,000,000 for the government shipping project. General supply bills that enter into the session's total are as follows:

Postoffice, \$223,296,577; navy, yet to be approved, \$115,526,843; army, \$297,397,999; pensions, \$158,000,000; sundry civil, \$128,395,445; rivers and harbors, \$42,535,885; legislative, executive and judicial, \$37,725,690; army and navy, \$30,967,444; diplomatic and consular, \$3,555,099 and military academy, \$1,235,043.

With President Wilson and a majority of the party leaders, urgently supporting the senate's naval bill, and personnel increases, it is believed the house will agree to them after advocates of a small navy have made their last fight in anticipation of close vote every absent representative was notified more than a week ago of the approaching contest which will determine the climate of the national defense campaign this week.

Appropriations for preparedness alone will aggregate approximately \$400,000,000, and the bill's opponents should force a reduction in the naval program. "While the house this week is bringing defense legislation to a close, the senate will pass the ship bill, workers' compensation bill, and conference reports preparatory for the revenue bill on which a stubborn political assault will be waged by the Republicans."

When the amended revenue bill gets through conference it is expected congress will be ready to adjourn. Leaders of both parties are hoping adjournment will come by September 1.

CLOUDBURST IN COLORADO
(Republican A. P. Leased Wire)
PUEBLO, Colo., Aug. 13.—A cloudburst near Rockyvale, above Florence, turned two dry creeks into rivers this afternoon, damming two bridges on the Santa Fe branch line and one on the main line of the Denver and Rio Grande. Traffic over the latter line was suspended until 10 o'clock tonight.

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SEVENTEEN INJURED IN SWITCH ENGINE CRASH

EL PASO, TEXAS, Aug. 13.—Seventeen persons were injured, none of them dangerously, last night when a switch engine crashed into westbound Texas and Pacific passenger train No. 5, on the outskirts of El Paso, according to a complete report today. The passenger train was traveling at about twenty miles an hour when the switch engine backed from a siding on the main path directly in its path. Both engines were demolished. The injured were taken to local hospitals where it was said tonight, all were recovering.

CORPORATION STOCK LICENSE TAX PROPOSED

(Republican A. P. Leased Wire)

WASHINGTON, Aug. 13.—A corporation stock license tax to raise approximately \$20,000,000, eliminated of most of the objectionable stamp taxes which once had been accepted and approved, with an amendment, of the proposed net profit tax on munitions manufacturers were determined upon by the democratic senate caucus tonight after a five-hour debate on the revenue bill.

Southern and western senators made a bitter assault upon the finance committee amendment which proposed a ten per cent tax on the net profits of manufacturers of materials used as component parts of munitions of war.

It was insisted that it would result in a heavy tax on cotton and copper entering into the manufacture of munitions.

As approved, the section relating to munitions provided that a net profit tax of ten per cent be levied upon manufacturers of all munitions of war and that a five per cent tax be levied on manufacturers of materials which enter into such munitions.

The final break came late today after the men had been in secret session nearly six hours. Reports differ as to the reason for the failure of the negotiations in view of the charged outlook of the night before. The men assert they refused

arbitration because insisted on arbitrating their contingent proposition. The board of mediators, in a statement issued tonight declared, however, that the men rejected their proposition contending that they would not arbitrate even if the railroad managers waived the contingent proposition.

The statement of the mediators, issued by Judge Martin A. Knapp, chairman of the board, just before their departure for Washington, follows:

"After repeated efforts to bring about an arbitration of the pending controversy between the railroad managers and their employees in train and yard service, the United States board of mediation and conciliation was today advised by the representatives of the employees that they would not submit the matters in dispute to arbitration in any form."

The employees further stated to the board that they would not arbitrate their own demands even if the contingent demands of the railroad managers were withdrawn, and also declined to suggest any other plan or method for a peaceful settlement of the controversy."

They were informed that their decision would be at once made known to President Wilson and also that the president claimed the right to a personal interview with both parties before any drastic action was taken.

This request was of course, granted, and a large delegation of employees, each a member of railroad managers will be in Washington Monday for a conference with the president.

"Early in the negotiations the railroad managers had informed the board on mediation and conciliation that they would accept arbitration."

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NEW YORK, Aug. 13.—A general strike on virtually all the railroads of the nation, paralyzing commerce and throwing approximately 2,000,000 men out of employment, can be averted only through the good offices of President Wilson, as a result of today's developments in the dispute over the men's demands for an eight-hour day and time and a half for overtime.

The controversy was laid before the president, at his invitation, after the workers had flatly rejected any form of arbitration. They refused mediation yesterday.

Soon after accepting the president's summons, extended through the federal board of mediation and conciliation, the men announced that the leaders of the four railroad brotherhoods would leave for Washington at midnight, accompanied by thirty of the six hundred delegates assembled here.

An hour later the railroad managers, nineteen in number, said that they would leave for the capital at the same time.

Both parties will reach Washington tomorrow in time for an early conference with the president. The hour for the meeting will be arranged by Secretary Tumulty who started for this city from Washington late today as Mr. Wilson's representative, arriving here at 9 o'clock tonight.

Mr. Tumulty brought with him a communication from President Wilson addressed to brotherhoods and the railroad managers pointing out that such a paralysis of business as would follow a general railroad strike would be a catastrophe at any time, but would be nothing short of a disaster under present conditions. On this ground the president based his request for a conference with representatives of both factions before a strike order is issued by the leaders of the men.

Negotiations had not been broken off when Mr. Tumulty left Washington but when he reached Philadelphia he received a telegram from W. L. Chambers, one of the mediators, informing him the men had declined to arbitrate. Mr. Tumulty's first step after reaching New York was to call President Wilson on the long distance telephone to decide upon an hour for the conference at the White house tomorrow.

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"Early in the negotiations the railroad managers had informed the board on mediation and conciliation that they would accept arbitration."

"The chief objection of the men to arbitrating the railroad's contingent proposition, lay in their contention that the railroad managers had refused out of double compensation features which the men have gained during thirty years of effort. The railroad managers, however, declared that they were willing to accept double compensation, together with the demands of the men, if granted, would increase the wages of many of their employees more than the cost of the strike."

Kluis Lee, chairman of the conference committee of railroad managers, declined to discuss the crisis other than to say that the railroad managers placed the responsibility for the utter failure of the mediators upon the men."

When the mediators realized that further parties than the men and the railroad managers had been invited to the president's mediation, they did not vote to accept the call until nearly 2 hours after it had been received.

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AUSTRIAN LINES CRUMBLING AND GEN. VON BOTHMER RETREATING

(Republican A. P. Leased Wire)
PETROGRAD, Aug. 14 (Via London).—The Austrian lines along the "Tria", which they have been since early in September, have crumbled, and General von Bothmer is in full retreat along the whole front, according to the latest information received by the Russian general staff.

General Letchitsky is advancing in the rear of von Bothmer's right flank, while General Scherbachoff is closing in on his left. The Austrian commander is apparently making an attempt to escape the Russian trap by taking up a position on a line running through Ziochoff, Pomerany, Brezany to Halicz, roughly twenty miles to the west of his old line before Tarnopol and Buczacz.

It is stated semi-officially that the Austrians evacuated the Stripa line without a battle, and that the Russian reacher and hold in their new positions is considered problematical. It is pointed out that the strength of General Letchitsky's position on the Stripa line makes it extremely unlikely that the Austrians will be able to hold that town. Their new line little more advantageous than the position on the Stripa, and General Letchitsky still would be hanging on the right flank.

The Russians have successfully negotiated the last natural obstacle between them and Halicz, namely the Bystritsa river, which empties into the Uniester eight miles to the south. General Scherbachoff has already thrown a large force across the Zlota Lipa, approaching Halicz from the southeast.

MORE TROOPS TO BORDER
(Republican A. P. Leased Wire)
DENVER, Aug. 13.—Preparations for the movement of members of the Colorado national guard to the Mexican border were begun today following receipt of war orders by Adjutant General Gamble. At the state rifle range it was stated that troops would probably begin entering tomorrow. The Colorado guard consists of 1,531 officers and men.

August 28; Sioux Falls, S. D. August 30; St. Paul, Minn. August 31; Fargo, N. D. September 1; Helena, Mont. September 2, and Spokane, Wash., September 4.

From Spokane the board will go to Oregon and California and return across the central part of the continent. Later a trip will be taken through the south.

The hearings will be public and farmers and farmers' organizations will be invited to appear before the board and submit information which they think will assist the board in solving the important problem of determining the boundaries of the districts and locating the federal land banks.

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Hughes Spends Sunday Resting From Activities

(Republican A. P. Leased Wire)
SPOKANE, Wash., Aug. 13.—Charles E. Hughes spent today here quietly, resting from the activities of the past seven days and preparing for the second week of his campaign.

This will open tomorrow with a twenty-five-mile motor trip to Coeur d'Alene, Idaho, where Mr. Hughes is to speak at 11 a.m. The nominee will return after luncheon to Spokane, where he will be at an afternoon and a night meeting. He will leave here at 8:45 p.m. for Tacoma, immediately after speaking.

The second week of his campaign will carry him as far as Los Angeles, through Tacoma, Seattle, Portland and San Francisco.

Mr. Hughes and his wife attended the First Baptist church here today. They went this afternoon for a long motor ride through places of interest nearby.

TOXAWAY DAM BREAKS

ASHEVILLE, N. C., Aug. 13.—The great dam at Lake Toxaway, weakened by the recent floods, broke this evening sending a great wall of water down the valley toward Western South Carolina. No lives were reported lost last night and warnings are believed to have enabled most persons in the path of the flood to reach safety.

The lake, an artificial body of water, covering 550 acres and an average depth of thirty feet, was reported almost entirely drained. The dam, an eighth of a mile long and fifty feet high, was completely destroyed. The town of Lake Toxaway suffered only minor damage.

The released waters tonight were rushing through the Toxaway river valley, a comparatively uninhabited section.

MEXICAN SOCIAL DISCONTENT IS ATTRIBUTED TO SOCIALISTS

(Republican A. P. Leased Wire)
EL PASO, Aug. 13.—Reports of social discontent in Mexico are contained in a copy of El Nacional, a Carranza organ of Mexico City, which reached here today. It stated that last week General Benjamin Hill, military commander of the federal district, had covered the city with patrols to disperse gatherings of striking employees of the electric lighting and street railway company. It added that several shots had been fired and that small riots had resulted.

According to the paper, Carranza met representatives of the Federation of Syndicates, the organization behind the strike, and informed them that in his opinion, their action in striking was unpatriotic. Social discontent in Mexico was attributed to the influence of "socialist labor agitators." Arrivals in El Paso from the capital today, however, said that the food scarcity and lack of opportunity for work are important factors.

Private dispatches here from Chihuahua City said that "General" Jose Luis Salazar, hold there in connection with alleged revolutionary plots, had been executed by General Trevino. There was no official confirmation, however.

Rumors current in El Paso today that the Carranza garrison in Juarez contemplated an early revolt were pronounced ridiculous by de facto authorities.

President To Make Urgent Appeal For Settlement

(Republican A. P. Leased Wire)
WASHINGTON, Aug. 13.—President Wilson, deeply concerned over the possibility that a general strike would tie up the country's railroads is preparing to make an instant personal appeal for any amicable settlement when the representatives of the roads and their employees confer with him tomorrow at the White House.

Since the situation became threatening, the president has been in close touch with developments and has used every available agency of the federal government to bring the two factions together. He has taken no stand on the merits of the controversy, however, and it is not expected that he will do so at the conference tomorrow but will emphasize the far reaching effect a strike would have upon the whole country.

The president is said to feel that regardless of the points at issue a way still can be found for settlement without a strike and the disturbance to other industries and inconvenient the general public which would result.

Several more petitions from railway employees not members of the brotherhood to do all in his power to avert a strike were brought here tonight and will be delivered at the White House tomorrow. P. K. Walden of Chicago, acting on behalf of the men employed by the Chicago and Alton, brought one bearing 16,000 signatures, and announced that 4,500 employees of the Gulf, Colorado and Santa Fe had forwarded a similar appeal.